

For Immediate Release

February 3, 2021

Contact:

Jennifer Coker 843-745-7150

Media Advisory

CCSD educators nationally recognized in Black History Month SEL video series

Office of Strategy and Communications

Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Erica S. Taylor
Chief of Staff

Charleston, SC – Seven Charleston County School District educators [will be nationally recognized](#) this month during Black History Month. Committee for Children, a non-profit best known for its innovative social-emotional learning (SEL) curriculum, Second Step, will host a national Black History Month video series celebrating Black educators. All elementary and middle schools in CCSD have Second Step, facilitating evidence-based lessons in social, emotional wellness.

Jennifer Coker, Executive Director of the Department of Alternative Programs and Services, is thankful to the Committee for Children for providing this platform.

“We are so incredibly proud for the voices of these seven incredible Black Educators in Charleston to be elevated and honored by the Committee for Children during Black History Month,” said Coker. “We know the value and excitement these educators bring to their schools and children every day. We understand the powerful impact this can have for our students of color to see and hear from educators that look like them. We are appreciative of the work they do every day in CCSD and are thrilled to share these incredible people with the rest of the world.”

Educators willing to participate submitted videos to Committee for Children detailing their experiences, careers, successes, and hopes for the future.

“It’s an honor to use Committee for Children’s platform to celebrate such phenomenal Black educators and amplify their voices during Black History Month,” said Shauna McBride, vice president of public relations and communications at Committee for Children. “We’re thrilled to elevate the stories and experiences of those who are working diligently to develop the next generation of Black leaders and innovators.”

The following CCSD educators will be recognized.

- Andrea Gadsden, Assistant Principal at Jerry Zucker Middle School
- Barbara Moses, Behavior Support Teacher, Pepperhill Elementary School

- Kylene Gerideau-Grant, Business Education/Computer Science Teacher Career & Technical Education at Jerry Zucker Middle School
- Naquita Page-Dawson, School Counselor at Jerry Zucker Middle School
- Sharese Pearson-Bush, Strings Teacher, Northwoods Middle School
- Shnickaqua Mustipher, Assistant Principal at Carolina Park Elementary School
- Shujuan Shannon, School Counselor, C.E. Williams Middle North Campus
- Wanda Izzard, Teacher, Sanders-Clyde Elementary School

The Black History Month video series will air on the [Committee for Children YouTube channel](#) throughout February.

###

About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally-accredited school district that is committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 87 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.